

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SANA 04461 210717Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 DODE-00 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-07
NSAE-00 IGA-02 /027 W
----- 076645 /20

R 210400Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY SANA
TO /SECSTATE WASHDC 9901
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
INFO CHUSMTM DHAHRAN
USA SECT. RIYADH

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANA 4461

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS, YE, SA
SUBJECT: NON-TRANSFER ASSURANCES FOR 105 HOWITZERS

1. ONE YEAR AGO WE PRESENTED TO YARG TEXT REQUIRED BY US LAW
CONCERNING NON-TRANSFER OF M-102A1 HOWITZERS WHICH SAUDIS SENT
DOWN HERE FOR SEPTEMBER 1975 REVOLUTION DAY PARADE.

2. YEMENIS AT THAT TIME WERE CATEGORIC THAT THEY WOULD
PRODUCE FORMAL LETTER OF THIS SORT ONLY IF SAUDIS ASKED THEM
TO DO SO. SAUDIS AGREED TO DO SO, BUT DIDN'T ACT.

3. EFFORTS TO OBTAIN NECESSARY SAUDI INTERVENTION HALTED
WHEN WE HAD REPORTS FROM HERE AND KINGDOM THAT HOWITZERS
HAD BEEN RETURNED. THESE REPORTS TURNED OUT TO BE WRONG.

4. NOW WE ARE BACK ON SQUARE ONE, BUT IN VIEW OF LESSONS OF
PAST WE BELIEVE, AS NOTED IN SANA 4288, THAT SAUDIS SHOULD TAKE
INITIATIVE HERE. THIS IS BEST AND ONLY WAY TO GET YAR AGREEMENT.
WE WILL THEREFORE, GO TO YEMENIS WITHTEXT WHICH DEPARTMENT
PROVIDED IN STATE 296028 WHEN WE HAVE INDICATION
THAT SAUDIS HAVE PAVED THE WAY HERE.

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5. WE CAN, OF COURSE, IN INTERIM, RAISE THIS MATTER
HERE WITH SAUDI MILITARY ATTACHE AND CHIEF SAUDI MILI-
TARY MISSION BUT ASSUME THEY WILL NOT ACT UNTIL
DIRECTION COMES FROM RIYADH.

6. FOR JIDDA. ASSUMING WE MUST POINT OUT TO SAUDIS THAT THEY

ARE REQUIRED BY FMS LAW, IN CASE EITHER OF
LOAN OR OUTRIGHT TRANSFER, TO GET PERMISSION IN
WRITING OF USG FOR SHIPMENT OF HOWITZERS HERE, WE BELIEVE THIS IS GOOD
TIME TO ASK SAUDIS TO TAKE
THE LEAD WITH YAR RE THIS MATTER.
SCOTES

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NNN

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